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CLAIMS

1.   A method of transferring data from a memory tag to another device, using a memory tag reader, wherein the other device has an active portion

5   which can detect the presence and position of the memory tag reader when brought adjacent to it, the method comprising the steps of :

bringing the memory tag reader adjacent to the memory tag;

uploading the data into the memory tag reader;

moving the memory tag reader adjacent to the active portion of the other

10   device into a position which identifies the location to which the data is to be transferred, and

downloading the data from the memory tag reader into that location in the other device.

15   2.   A method according to claim 1 wherein the data is automatically uploaded from the memory tag when the memory tag reader is brought adjacent to the memory tag.

3.   A method according to claim 1 wherein the data is automatically

20   downloaded from the memory tag reader when the memory tag reader is brought into the position adjacent to the active portion of the other device.

4.   A method according to claim 1 wherein the data is uploaded from the memory tag by user operation of the memory tag reader.

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5.   A method according to claim 1 wherein the data is downloaded from the memory tag reader by user operation of the memory tag reader.

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6.   A method according to claim 1 wherein the active portion of the other device is a screen.

7.   A method according to claim 6 wherein the screen is touch sensitive.

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8.   A method according to claim 1 wherein the other device is a computer or personal digital assistant.

9.   A method according to claim 1 wherein the memory tag is an inductively

10   powered transponder.

10.   A method of transferring data to a memory tag from another device, using a memory tag reader/writer, wherein the other device has an active portion which can detect the presence and position of the memory tag

15   reader/writer when brought adjacent to it, the method comprising the steps of :

identifying the data to be transferred;

bringing the memory tag reader/writer adjacent to the active portion of the other device;

uploading the data into the memory tag reader/writer;

20   moving the memory tag reader/writer adjacent to the memory tag, and

downloading the data into the memory tag.

11.   A method according to claim 10 wherein the data to be transferred is identified by bringing the memory tag reader/writer adjacent to the active

25   portion of the other device and dragging it across the active portion of the other device.

12.   A method according to claim 10 wherein the data to be transferred is identified by use of the other device.

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13.   A method according to claim 10 wherein the data is automatically uploaded to the memory tag reader/writer when the memory tag reader/writer is brought adjacent to the active portion of the other device and adjacent the

5   location of the data identified for transfer.

14.   A method according to claim 10 wherein the data is automatically uploaded to the memory tag reader/writer when the memory tag reader/writer is brought adjacent to the active portion of the other device and adjacent the

10   location of the data identified for transfer, and subsequently removed from that position.

15.   A method according to claim 10 wherein the data is automatically downloaded from the memory tag reader/writer when the memory tag

15   reader/writer is brought adjacent to the memory tag.

16.   A method according to claim 10 wherein the data is uploaded from the other device by user operation of the memory tag reader/writer.

20   17.   A method according to claim 10 wherein the data is downloaded from the memory tag reader/writer by user operation of the memory tag reader/writer.

18.   A method according to claim 10 wherein the active portion of the other device is a screen.

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19.   A method according to claim 18 wherein the screen is touch sensitive.

20.   A method according to claim 10 wherein the other device is a computer or personal digital assistant.

21.   A method according to claim 10 wherein the memory tag is an inductively powered transponder.

5   22.   A reader to read data from a memory tag and transfer it to another device, having a memory in which to store the data temporarily once read from the memory tag, wherein the reader is responsive to a download instruction from another device to which it is adjacent to download the data read from the memory tag.

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23.   A reader as claimed in claim 22 wherein the reader is adapted to read data from a memory tag by inductively powering the memory tag and receiving a signal from the powered memory tag.

15   24.   Apparatus for transferring data from a memory tag to another device, comprising a memory tag reader having a memory in which to store the data temporarily once read from the memory tag and an active portion of the other device which can detect the presence and position of the memory tag reader when brought adjacent to it.

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25.   Apparatus according to claim 24 wherein the other device is configured such that download of the data from the memory of the reader into the other device is to a location represented by the position at which the memory tag reader is brought adjacent to the active portion.

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26.   Apparatus according to claim 25 wherein the other device and memory tag reader are configured such that the data is automatically downloaded from the memory tag reader into the other device when the memory tag reader is detected as being adjacent to the active portion.

27.   Apparatus according to claim 25 wherein the other device and memory tag reader are configured such that the data is downloaded from the memory tag reader into the other device when the memory tag reader is operated to trigger

5   the download.

28.   Apparatus as claimed in claim 24 wherein the memory tag reader is adapted to read data from a memory tag by inductively powering the memory tag and receiving a signal from the powered memory tag.

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29.   Apparatus for transferring data between a memory tag and another device, comprising a memory tag reader/writer having a memory in which to store the data temporarily once read from the other device and an active portion of the other device which can detect the presence and position of the memory

15   tag reader/writer when brought adjacent to it.

30.   Apparatus according to claim 29 wherein the other device is configured such that upload of the data into the memory of the reader/writer from the other device is from a location represented by the position at which the memory tag

20   reader/writer is brought adjacent to the active portion.

31.   Apparatus according to claim 30 wherein the memory tag reader/writer includes a read head at a first end for reading of data from the other device or the memory tag and a write head at a second end for writing of data to the other

25   device or memory tag.

32.   Apparatus according to claim 30 wherein the other device and memory tag reader/writer are configured such that the data is automatically downloaded

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from the memory tag reader/writer into the other device when the memory tag reader/writer is detected as being adjacent to the active portion.

33.   Apparatus according to claim 30 wherein the other device and memory
5   tag reader/writer are configured such that the data is automatically uploaded into the memory tag reader/writer from the other device when the memory tag reader/writer is detected as being adjacent to the active portion.

34.   Apparatus according to claim 30 wherein the other device and memory
10   tag reader/writer are configured such that the data is uploaded into the memory tag reader/writer from the other device when the memory tag reader/writer is operated to trigger or enable the upload.

35.   Apparatus according to claim 30 wherein the other device and memory
15   tag reader/writer are configured such that the data is downloaded from the memory tag reader/writer into the other device when the memory tag reader/writer is operated to trigger or enable the download.

36.   Apparatus according to claim 29 wherein the memory tag reader/writer
20   is adapted to read data from a memory tag by inductively powering the memory tag and, for reading, receiving a signal from the powered memory tag and, for writing, sending a signal to the powered memory tag.

37.   A method of transferring data from a memory tag to a computer, using a
25   memory tag reader, wherein the computer has an active screen which can detect the presence and position of the memory tag reader when brought adjacent to it, the method comprising the steps of :

        bringing the memory tag reader adjacent to the memory tag;

        uploading the data into the memory tag reader;

moving the memory tag reader adjacent to the active screen of the computer into a position which identifies the location to which the data is to be transferred, and

downloading the data from the memory tag reader into that location in

5   the computer.

38.   A method of transferring data to a memory tag from a computer, using a memory tag reader/writer, wherein the computer has an active screen which can detect the presence and position of the memory tag reader/writer when brought

10   adjacent to it, the method comprising the steps of :

identifying the data to be transferred;

bringing the memory tag reader/writer adjacent to the active screen of the computer;

uploading the data into the memory tag reader/writer;

15   moving the memory tag reader/writer adjacent to the memory tag, and downloading the data into the memory tag.

39.   A reader to read data from a memory tag and transfer it to a computer, the reader having a memory in which to store the data temporarily once read

20   from the memory tag, wherein the reader is responsive to a download instruction from the computer when it is held adjacent the computer to download the data read from the memory tag.

40.   Apparatus for transferring data from a memory tag to a computer,

25   comprising a memory tag reader having a memory in which to store the data temporarily once read from the memory tag and an active screen of the computer which can detect the presence and position of the memory tag reader when brought adjacent to it.

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41.   Apparatus for transferring data to a memory tag from a computer, comprising a memory tag reader/writer having a memory in which to store the data temporarily once read from the computer and an active screen of the computer which can detect the presence and position of the memory tag

5   reader/writer when brought adjacent to it.

42.   Apparatus for transferring data between a memory tag and a computer, comprising:

    a memory tag reader/writer having a read head at a first end for reading

10   of data from the computer or the memory tag, a memory in which to store the data temporarily once read from the computer or the memory tag and a write head at a second end for writing of data to the computer or memory tag, and

    an active screen of the computer which can detect the presence and position of the memory tag reader/writer when brought adjacent to it.

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